

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAJ-01 OMB-01

ARA-06 /071 W

----- 104580

O 181623Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 67

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 201

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PR, UN, BU

SUBJECT: PUERTO RICO AND THE COMMITTEE OF 24

REF: A) STATE 194115; B) HELSINKI SECTO 8090

1. CALLED ON ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER ANDON TRAIKOV AT 1700 HOURS AUG 18, IT HAVING PROVED IMPOSSIBLE TO REACH ANYONE WITH EVEN NEARLY SUFFICIENT RANK ON SATURDAY (RANKING AVAILABLE MFA OFFICIAL ON THAT DAY WAS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL). I BEGAN BY EXPRESSING SURPRISE THAT IT SHOULD TAKE 56 HOURS FOR AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO BE RECEIVED BY A RANKING OFFICIAL OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AFTER REPEATEDLY INFORMING MFA THAT HE HAD AN URGENT AND IMPORTANT MATTER TO DISCUSS ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM WASHINGTON. TRAIKOV OFFERED APOLOGIES FOR THE DELAY WHICH HE SAID HAD BEEN DUE TO FACT HE IS ALL ALONE IN THE MINISTRY, SINCE FOREIGN MINISTER AND THE OTHER THREE VICE MINISTERS ARE ALL AWAY FROM SOFIA. HE SAID NO POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO THE DELAY.

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2. I BEGAN PRESENTATION BY REFERRING TO SECRETARY

KISSINGER'S STATEMENT TO FOREIGN MINISTER MLADENOV IN HELSINKI (REF B) THAT THERE IS NO REASON NOT TO IM-LFROVE BUUATERAL RELATIONS UNLESS ONMCOURSE BULGARIA HARASSES US IN INTERNATIONAL ARZCA (OR ACTS AGGRESSIVELY AGAINST ITS NEIGHBORS). THE PRESENT CASE INVOLVES WHAT WE SEE AS SSH HARASSMENT AND THEREFORE AFFECTS THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR RELATIONS. THEN I EX-PLAINED WHY AFFIRMATIVE VOTE ON THE CUBAN RESOLUTION HIGHLY OBJECTIONABLE TO US, USING THE PRECISE HARD LANGUAGE IN PARA 2 E REFTEL.

3. TRAIKOV WHO OBVIOUSLY KNEW NOTHING ABOUT THE SUBJECT THEREUPON AIRLY REMARKED THAT DELAY IN BRINGING UP THIS MATTER ON EVE OF VOTE IN NEW YORK IS OF NO CONSEQUENCE BECAUSE THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS "COULD" SEND A MESSAGE TOMORROW MORNING TO NEW YORK CHANGING THE VOTING INSTRUCTIONS. HE COULD SEE NO REASON, HE SAID, WHY THIS SHOULD NOT BE "POSSIBLE". HOWEVER, HE WAS IN NO POSITION TO PREDICT WHAT THE INSTRUCTIONS TO THE BULGARIAN DELEGA-TION WOULD SAY SINCE OBVIOUSLY THE MATTER WOULD HAVE TO BE STUDIED IN LIGHT NOT ONLY OF OUR DEMARCHE BUT ALSO OF OTHER CONSIDERATIONS.

4. COMMENT: IF BULGARIANS CAN PULL THEMSELVES TOGETHER TO ACT AT ALL IN TIME FOR A VOTE ON AUGUST 19, THEY WILL CERTAINLY CHECK WITH THE USSR; AND IT WILL BECOME APPARENT THAT WHILE TO BULGARIA WE HAVE USED TERMS "UNFRIENDLY ACT WHICH WOULD HAVE CONSEQUENCES IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS", WE HAVE NOT USED SIMILARLY STRONG LANGUAGE IN DEMARCHE TO USSR (CF. DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PARAS 2 E AND 2 F REFTEL). THEREFORE, IF BUL-GARIANS SHOULD PROPOSE A CHANGE IN VOTING POSITION, THIS IS LIKELY TO RECEIVE RESPONSE THAT AS FAR AS USSR IS AWARE THE US DOES NOT REALLY FEEL AS STRONGLY ABOUT THIS MATTER AS THE BULGARIANS WERE LED TO UNDERSTAND.

5. IN OTHER WORDS, WE ARE NOT SANGUINE THAT HITTING THE BULGARIANS VERY HARD, AS WE HAVE DONE, WILL PRODUCE DESIRED RESULTS UNLESS WE WERE PREPARED TO HIT THE SOVIETS JUST AS HARD. SINCE BULGARIA HAS NEVER TO OUR CONFIDENTIAL

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KNOWLEDGE VOTED DIFFERENTLY FROM THE USSR, THE BEST THAT WE CAN EXPECT IS THAT THEY WILL PLEAD WITH USSR THAT JOINT POSITION BE MODIFIED. SUCH PLEA IS LESS LIKELY TO BE EFFECTIVE AS LONG AS USSR HAS NOT RECEIVED SIGNAL THAT WE ARE AS SERIOUS WITH THEM AS WE ARE WITH THEIR DEPEND-ENTS.

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